



Society of Mining Professors
Societät der Bergbaukunde

2020 SOMP Annual Meeting and Conference
Medellin Marriott Hotel
Medellin, Colombia, June 30 – July 03, 2020



UNIVERSIDAD
NACIONAL
DE COLOMBIA



Society of Mining Professors
Societät der Bergbaukunde

2020 31st SOMP Annual Meeting and Conference



Conference Announcement and Call for Papers
Medellin Marriott Hotel, Medellín, Colombia
June 30th – July 3rd, 2019

Second Circular

[Register now](#)



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Invitation from the Organizing Committee



Prof. Oscar Jaime Restrepo Baena 2019-2020 SOMP President

Dear SOMP Members,

It is with great pleasure and excitement that I invite you to the Society of Mining Professors/Societät der Bergbaukunde annual meeting and conference in Medellin, the industrial city of Colombia, from the June 30th through the July 03rd 2020. It is indeed an honor for us to host it in Colombia, the first SOMP meeting and conference after the first Regional Meeting in Latin America in May 2016. The SOMP meeting and conference is co-hosted by School of Mines at Universidad Nacional de Colombia and AIMC (Asociación de Profesionales del Sector Minero Colombiano – Colombian mining sector professionals), under the guidance of our Secretary-General Professor Vlad Kecojevic, from West Virginia University, USA. The SOMP has set a very ambitious Strategic Plan towards the next decade, therefore, we have planned several open and interactive sessions and workshops that will help us reach the goals set in our strategic plan and help our society excel in the future.

The partners program has been designed to be a very interesting time spent with several exciting activities including visits some places in Medellin and surroundings. We have also planned a pre-meeting optional technical tours, also, we have planned a post-meeting field trip to a very interesting mining project.

I hope that the next Annual Meeting that we will hold in the city of Medellín, Colombia, will be tremendously beneficial and fun for all members. That it is not just another international conference, but rather an unforgettable experience, accompanied by a strong technical content integrated with informative and practical forums and discussion panels, which cover our areas of greatest interest for future educational needs, research opportunities collaborative, member development and capacity development for new mining programs in different parts of the world. Finally, a great opportunity to establish contacts and develop long-term professional relationships.

We look forward to greeting you in Medellin – Colombia, DC in June 2020. Best regards/Mit freundlichen Grüßen und Glückauf



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National Organizing Committee

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Students of Universidad Nacional de Colombia.

International Organizing Committee

The SOMP Council

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Council Members:

- **Member for Oceania:** Prof. Peter Dowd, University of Adelaide, Australia
- **Member for South America:** Prof. Oscar Jaime Restrepo Baena, Universidad Nacional de Colombia
- **Member for Africa:** Prof. Harmony Musiyarira, Namibia University of Science & Technology, Namibia
- **Member for Asia:** Prof. Zhongxue Li, University of Science & Technology Beijing, China; Nga Nguyen, Hanoi University of Mining and Geology, Vietnam
- **Member for North America:** Prof. Zach Agioutantis, University of Kentucky, USA
- **Member(s) for Europe:** Prof. Jürgen Kretschmann, TH Georg Agricola University Germany; Prof. Marilena Cardu, Politecnico di Torino, Italy

Conference Secretariat

Ms. Maria Margarita Gamarra
School of Mines – Universidad Nacional de Colombia
Email: sompmeeting_med@unal.edu.co

[Read more](#)

Meeting venue

Medellin Marriott Hotel
Address: Cl. 1a Sur ##43A-83, Medellín, Antioquia
Phone: (+57 4) 4443636

[Read More](#)

Conference Fees

Early bird registration until April 20, 2019: 500 US Dollars per person
Normal registration until May 20, 2019: 550 US Dollars per person
Late registration from May 21, 2019 onwards: 600 US Dollars per person
Accompanying Persons: 350 US Dollars per person

[Read More](#)

Call for Papers

Prospective authors are invited to submit titles and abstracts of their papers in English. The abstracts should be no longer than 500 words and should be submitted to:

Prof. Oscar Jaime Restrepo Baena
Email: sompmeeting_med@unal.edu.co

Contributions are invited on topics such as:

- Innovative education approaches
- Collaborative education partnerships
- Challenges of mines of the future and innovative mining research
- Mentorship and academic staff career development
- Education capacity building



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Please note that acceptance of abstracts will be limited and based on peer-review. Once accepted, authors are required to give a presentation at the meeting. No mandatory paper submission is required; however, the accepted papers will be published in the USB proceedings of the conference.

Presentation of Society Awards

The SOMP will present its major awards and recognitions during the meeting: the Guenter Fettweis Award, the Ludwig Wilke Award the Emeritus Member Award, the Tim Shaw Award and the new awards of our Society: the Michael Karmis SOMP PhD Fellowship Award recognizing a SOMP junior member who desires to pursue an academic career by acquiring a PhD in the field of Mining Engineering and/or Mineral Processing and Bruce Hebblewhite SOMP Best Paper Award recognizing author(s) presenting papers at the SOMP Annual General Meeting (AGM), for their contributions to the body of knowledge

Key Dates

February 1, 2020: Submission of abstracts

March 1, 2020: Acceptance of abstracts

May 1, 2020: Submission of papers

Accommodation

Medellin Marriott Hotel

Address: Cl. 1a Sur #43A-83, Medellín, Antioquia

Phone: (+57 4) 4443636

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Transform any trip into a relaxing getaway at Medellin Marriott Hotel, where you'll find a seamless blend of high-tech and high-touch service. Our modern accommodations, featuring pillowtop mattresses and 24-hour room service, make a perfect retreat after a busy day. When hunger arises, satisfy your cravings with build-your-own





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Recommended hotels - [Read more](#)

- **City Express**

Calle 4 sur # 43A-08, Medellín, Colombia

Phone: +57 4605 0168

[Read more](#)

City Express Plus Medellín is a hotel for business travelers in the south side of town, complete with Internet connection and warm breakfasts. If you're travelling to Medellín for business, you might want to stay here, since the hotel is placed right across Belen Industrial Zone and only 20 minutes away from Plaza Mayor Convention Center. This area is also a great starting point for exploring the city. El Poblado district, El Castillo Museum, and Entertainment Center La Macarena are some of the nearby attractions. Also close are Santa Fe and Oviedo, two of the largest shopping malls in the city.



- **Estelar Blue**

Cra 42 # 1 Sur - 74, Medellín, 050010, Colombia.

Phone: (866) 2384218

[Read more](#)

With a stay at Hotel Estelar Blue in Medellín (El Poblado), you'll be minutes from La Strada Mall and close to Park of Lights. This hotel is within close proximity of Oviedo Mall and Santa Fe Mall. Make yourself at home in one of the 134 air-conditioned rooms featuring minibars and LCD televisions. Complimentary wireless Internet access keeps you connected, and digital programming is available for your entertainment. Private bathrooms with showers feature complimentary toiletries and hair dryers. Conveniences include phones, as well as laptop-compatible safes and desks. Enjoy the recreation opportunities such as a health club or make use of other amenities including complimentary wireless Internet access.



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- **Holiday Inn Express**

Cra 43 A # 1 Sur - 150 El Poblado, Medellín, 050022

Phone: 57-4-4440344

[Read more](#)

Located in the El Poblado district of Medellin, the Holiday Inn Express® & Suites Medellin Hotel, offers visitors high quality services and a convenient location near the area's attractions and businesses. Less than five miles away, you can find popular attractions such as Pueblito Paisa, which offers a taste of Colombian culture, and El Parque de Los Pies Descalzos. La Strada Mall is adjacent to the hotel, and offers fine dining, entertainment and shopping. Have the best night's sleep in comfortable rooms, and wake up to the complimentary Express Start Breakfast Bar, which serves a variety of hot and cold items daily.





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- **Leblón Suites**

Carrera 42 A N° 1Sur -125, El Poblado, 050021 Medellín, Colombia
Phone: +57 4 3121669

[Read more](#)

Leblón Suites Hotel is located in Medellín, 1 km from the Oviedo and La Strada shopping centers. It offers a sauna, restaurant, breakfast service and self-catering suites with free Wi-Fi. The suites at the Leblon Hotel are decorated with parquet floors and wooden furniture. They also have air conditioning, cable TV, a private bathroom, a dining area and a fully equipped kitchen.

The establishment offers guests a sauna, a Turkish bath and a computer room with free internet access. Leblón Suites Hotel is 3 km from Museo de Antioquia and 10 km from Olaya Herrera Airport. In addition, it has a 24-hour reception that offers tour booking service and airport shuttle service.



- **San Fernando Plaza**

Cra. 42A #1-15, Medellín, Antioquia
Phone: +574 444 53 53

[Read more](#)

The San Fernando Plaza Hotel is for foreigners and executives, the first choice when visiting this beautiful city. It is located in the area known as the “Golden Mile” (On Avenida El Poblado) within the Financial and Cultural Center which carries the same name of the Hotel; widely considered the most exclusive area in the city.



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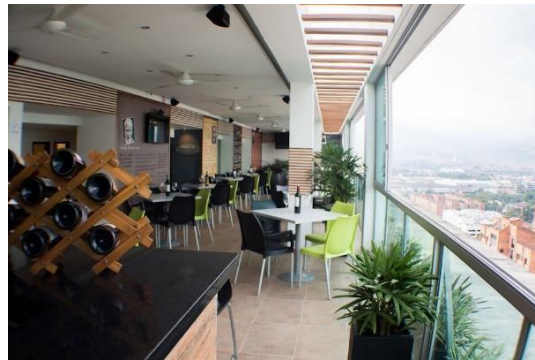


- **Novelty**

Calle 4 Sur N° 43 A - 109, El Poblado, 050022 Medellín, Colombia
Phone: +57 4 3194000

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Featuring a sauna and a Turkish bath, Novelty Suites is located right next to Oviedo shopping center. It features rooms with chic décor and free WiFi. Private parking is free. Novelty Suites Hotel has air-conditioned rooms with cable TV, styled in tasteful warm hues. Suites include seating areas with sofa beds and kitchen facilities. A full buffet breakfast is served daily at the Novelty Suites, where guests can enjoy world famous Colombian coffee. The restaurant offers international cuisine, contemporary décor and 24-hour room service. Novelty Hotel is 1.9 mi from Aguatacala metro station.



- **Affinity**

Calle 6 Sur N° 43A- 108, Medellín, Colombia
Phone: (4) 3195000

[Read more](#)

Affinity Aparta Hotel is a 4-star venue situated about 6 km from Pueblito Paisa. The accommodation comprises 46 non-smoking guestrooms. There is an airport shuttle bus service, a laundry room and 24-hour security at the hotel too. The property is set in El Poblado district, a few steps from Lleras Park. El Poblado Park is 15 minutes' walk from the aparthotel. Business



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centres and commercial centres are at a close proximity. It offers guest rooms with flat-screen TV, a refrigerator and a work desk. Some rooms feature views of the city. Guests will find tea and coffee making facilities, a freezer and a stovetop in all rooms.



Map and Points of Interest



- ★ The Marriott Hotel.
- ★ City Express Hotel.
- ★ Estelar Blue Hotel.
- ★ Holiday Inn Express Hotel
- ★ Leblon Suites Hotel.
- ★ San Fernando Plaza Hotel.
- ★ Novelty Hotel.
- ★ Affinity Hotel.



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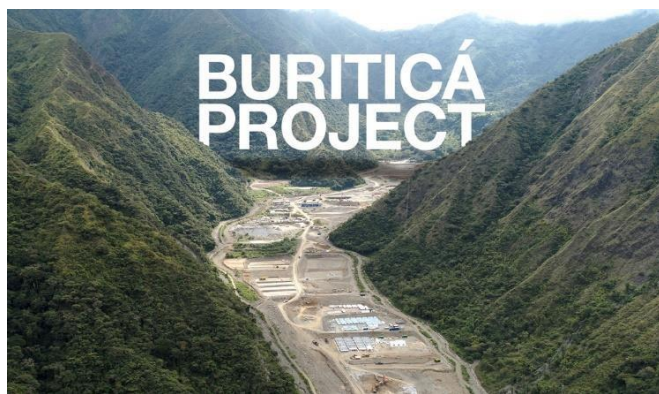
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Pre-Conference Optional Tours

Option 1: Continental Gold Project Buriticá

Saturday, June 27th, 2020	
Technical visit (see information below; an additional fee will be charged for this trip)	Technical visit: Proyecto Continental Buriticá

Continental Gold Project Buriticá: Located in the middle belt of the Cauca River in the northwestern region of Colombia. It is Continental Gold's flagship high tenor project. Its production stage is planned for 2020; the project is near Medellin with approximately 2 hours and a half by vehicle. In the month of June the temperature of the municipality of Buriticá can reach 25 ° C, it is advisable to wear fresh clothes. For the technical field trip you must wear pants, long-sleeved shirt and covered shoes.



[Read more](#)

Option 2: Guatapé Tour

Sunday, June 28th, 2020	
Morning	Guatapé visit
Afternoon	Guatapé visit

Guatapé Visit: Important geological interest with the incredible experience of visiting the most amazing artificial reservoir made in the region. Known as one of the nicest towns in the region, Guatapé is a beautiful town located near to Medellín. Guatapé combines the beauty of a town full of colors and typical house decorations. Is totally the number one “you can’t miss” destiny for all the tourist.



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Option 3: Vuelta a Oriente Tour

Monday, June 29th, 2020	
Morning	Vuelta a oriente tour
Afternoon	Vuelta a oriente Tour

Vuelta a oriente tour: Tour Around the East also called Green Route of Antioquia, visiting the towns: El Retiro, La Ceja, Rionegro, San Antonio de Pereira, el Carmen de Viboral, all of them have important reserves in industrial minerals and rocks. The east of Antioquia has an average temperature of 23° C; a good option to visit the trip is to use fresh and comfortable clothes to visit the different tourist places.



[Read more](#)

NOTE: Attendees will be able to choose any of these options and add them to their travel plans for the annual meeting. Each option has an additional cost.



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Preliminary Meeting and Conference Program [Register now](#)

Tuesday, June 30, 2020	
Morning	School of Mines Tour
Afternoon	Committees Meeting
Night	Welcome Cocktail
Wednesday, July 1, 2020	
Morning	Working Session No. 1
Afternoon	Working Session No. 2
Night	Group gathering
Thursday, July 2, 2020	
Morning	Working Session No. 3
Afternoon	Working Session No. 4
Night	Awards dinner
Friday, July 3, 2020	
Morning	Working Session No. 5 at “Parque Arvi”
Afternoon	Cultural session at School of Mines

Accompanying Persons Program [Register now](#)

Tuesday, June 30, 2020	
Morning	School of Mines Tour
Afternoon	Grafititour
Night	Welcome Cocktail
Wednesday, July 1, 2020	
Morning	Visit to the city
Afternoon	Visit to the city
Night	Group gathering
Thursday, July 2, 2020	
Morning	Coffee farm visit
Afternoon	Coffee farm visit
Night	Awards dinner
Friday, July 3, 2020	
Morning	“Parque Arvi” activities
Afternoon	Cultural session at School of Mines



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Post-Conference Option El Bagre Mining Project

Saturday, July 04, 2016	
Technical visit (see information below; an additional fee will be charged for this trip)	Technical visit: Visita Mineros S.A El Bagre

Mineros S.A El Bagre: Mineros S.A. is one of the largest mining companies in Colombia. It is located in the municipality of El Bagre, which is 370 km from the city of Medellin. Mineros S.A. unlike the other open pit mines in Colombia performs mining through dredging in flood zones near the Nechí River; the company carries out the extraction of gold material with 5 dredgers, which are equipped inside with anchoring, navigation and mineral recovery equipment. There are 2 ways to reach the municipality of El Bagre, by air or land. In the month of June the temperature of the municipality of El Bagre can reach 36 ° C, it is advisable to wear fresh clothes and sunscreen. For the technical field trip you must wear pants, long-sleeved shirt and covered shoes.



[Read more](#)

Air service

The airports destined for the arrival of the participants are El Dorado International Airport in Bogotá DC and Jose Maria Cordoba International Airport in Rionegro.

El Dorado International Airport is located 45 minutes by plane from Medellin. The airport has direct flights to more than 70 domestic and international destinations.



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Jose Maria Cordoba International Airport in Rionegro is located 25 km from the Medellín Marriott hotel in Medellín. It is about a 35 minutes driving in non-rush hour traffic. This terminal currently operates 11 international destinations.

Ground transportation

At the Jose Maria Cordoba Airport (Rionegro) in the main exit you can take a taxi, this will take approximately 20 minutes to the city of Medellín.

Visa and travel documents to Colombia

Most countries of the event participants do not require a visa to travel to Colombia. However, check if your country requires a visa at the following link.

https://www.cancilleria.gov.co/tramites_servicios/visa/requisitos

Please contact your local Colombia embassy/consulate for more information. If you need an entry visa, we will send you an invitation letter to be submitted with your visa application.

Dress code and climate

The recommended conference attire is business casual. For the Awards event, suits and ties for the men and dresses for the ladies are recommended. Temperatures in Medellín range from 20 to 25 degrees Celsius in late June. Temperatures in Bogotá range from 15 to 20 degrees Celsius in late June.

Banking / Credit Cards

In Colombia major credit cards are generally accepted including American Express, Diners Club, Master Card and Visa Card.

Flights Details

Medellín is the capital of Antioquia Department and the second biggest city in Colombia, its International airport José María Córdoba is located in Rionegro town which is 45 minutes away from Medellín.

Its strategic location allow that everyone could arrive to Medellín from any city of the world, there is a direct flight from Madrid, Spain to Medellin or two flights from Europe, Africa, Asia and Oceania. Those coming from Europe can also fly from Frankfurt, Paris, Amsterdam and/or Madrid to Panama City and/or Bogota, and then less than one hour from Panama City/Bogota to Medellin. There are a plenty of flights from major US cities to either Medellin, or to Panama City/Bogota, and then to Medellin.



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